

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A print control unit supplying a print control instruction to a printing machine, comprising:

5 feature acquisition device acquiring a feature of an image to be printed on a printing medium; and

adjusting device adjusting a value of a control parameter related to said printing machine in response to the feature of said image acquired by said feature acquisition device.

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2. The print control unit according to claim 1, wherein

said feature acquisition device acquires at least any of solid appearance, halftone appearance and light appearance as the feature of said image.

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3. The print control unit according to claim 2, wherein

said feature acquisition device acquires the feature of said image on the basis of frequency distribution varying with gradation values related to said image.

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4. The print control unit according to claim 3, wherein

said feature acquisition device acquires the feature of said image on the basis of at least any of the number, positions, heights and sharpness of peaks in said frequency distribution.

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5. The print control unit according to claim 4, wherein

said feature acquisition device acquires the feature of said image on the basis of

at least any of input image data as to proofread printed matter, image data included in document data and rasterized data subjected to rasterization.

6. The print control unit according to claim 5, wherein

5 said control parameter includes a parameter related to at least any of an ink feed rate, a water feed rate and a printing pressure in said printing machine.

7. The print control unit according to claim 2, further comprising reference

value set device setting a reference value for said control parameter, wherein

10 said adjusting device corrects said reference value in response to the feature of said image thereby adjusting said control parameter.

8. The print control unit according to claim 7, wherein

15 said reference value is decided on the basis of at least one parameter among a temperature, humidity, a printing speed and a printing number.

9. The print control unit according to claim 2, wherein

feature acquisition device acquires the feature of said image as an instruction from an operator.

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10. A computer software product including a computer-readable recording medium in which software programs are recorded, wherein said software programs control a computer to operate as a print control unit, said control unit comprising:

25 feature acquisition device acquiring the feature of an image to be printed on a printing medium; and

adjusting device adjusting the value of a control parameter related to a printing machine in response to the feature of said image acquired by said feature acquisition device.

- 5 11. A print control method for a printing machine, comprising steps of:
- a) acquiring a feature of an image to be printed on a printing medium; and
- b) adjusting a value of a control parameter related to said printing machine in response to the feature of said image acquired in said step a).
- 10 12. The print control method according to claim 11, wherein
- at least any of solid appearance, halftone appearance and light appearance is acquired as the feature of said image.
13. The print control method according to claim 12, wherein
- 15 the feature of said image is acquired on the basis of frequency distribution varying with gradation values related to said image.
14. The print control method according to claim 13, wherein
- the feature of said image is acquired on the basis of at least any of the number,
- 20 positions, heights and sharpness of peaks in said frequency distribution.
15. The print control method according to claim 14, wherein
- the feature of said image is acquired on the basis of at least any of input image data as to proofread printed matter, image data included in document data and rasterized
- 25 data subjected to rasterization.

16. The print control method according to claim 15, wherein said control parameter includes a parameter related to at least any of an ink feed rate, a water feed rate and a printing pressure in said printing machine.

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17. The print control method according to claim 12, wherein said step b) includes steps of:

b-1) setting a reference value for said control parameter, and

b-2) correcting said reference value in response to the character of said image

10 thereby adjusting said control parameter.

18. The print control method according to claim 17, wherein

said reference value is decided on the basis of at least one parameter among a temperature, humidity, a printing speed and a printing number.

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19. The print control method according to claim 12, wherein

the feature of said image is acquired as an instruction from an operator.